

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4793
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, MV, UN
SUBJECT: COURTESY CALL OF MALDIVES PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
TO UN ON AMBASSADOR LEONARD

1. FATHULLA JAMEEL, MALDIVES PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, PAID A COURTESY CALL AUGUST 5, 1977 ON AMB LEONARD. FOLLOWING ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANCE WERE LEARNED FROM AMB JAMEEL:

A) THE MALDIVES HAS NO INTENTION AT THIS TIME OF ESTABLISHING A DIPLOMATIC POST IN WASHINGTON, D.C. LACK OF A TRAINED STAFF IS THE PRIMARY REASON. IN FACT, THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, IS THE ONLY DIPLOMATIC POST MAINTAINED ABROAD BY THE MALDIVES FOR THE REASON GIVEN. THERE IS THE THOUGHT TO REOPEN THE MALDIVES EMBASSY IN COLOMBO, CLOSED 1975, BUT ON A SMALLER PERSONNEL SCALE.
B) THE OBJECTIVE OF AMB JAMEEL AT THE UN IS TO LEARN HOW THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WORKS, FOCUSING ON THE TECHNICAL PROGRAMS AS BEING OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE MALDIVES. HIS GOVERNMENT HOPES TO DETERMINE WHAT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE UN. HE FELT THAT THE UNDP EFFORT IN THE MALDIVES HAD SO FAR BEEN INEFFECTIVE.
C) WITHIN ITS CAPABILITIES, THE MALDIVES MISSION

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WILL PARTICIPATE IN UN ACTIVITIES, BUT IN VIEW OF ITS TWO-MAN STAFF, WILL HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO THE MALDIVES, I.E., ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES. ATTENTION MUST ALSO BE PAID TO THE POLITICAL INTERESTS OF THE ISLAMIC LEAGUE.

2. AMB LEONARD OFFERED THE SERVICES OF USUN TO AMB JAMEEL,

SHOULD THE LATTER HAVE ANY FUTURE PROBLEMS HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS, WHETHER RELATING TO UN ACTIVITIES OR HOST COUNTRY HOUSEKEEPING AFFAIRS. AMB JAMEEL SAID THAT HE HAD ENJOYED GOOD RELATIONS WITH USUN WHEN HE ATTENDED THE GA IN 1972 AND THAT HE ANTICIPATED A CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONSHIP.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH MISOFF, AMB JAMEEL REMARKED THAT IF DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICERS WITH INTEREST IN THE MALDIVES COME TO ATTEND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS, THE AMB WOULD LIKE TO MEET AND TALK WITH THEM ABOUT MALDIVES AFFAIRS. (PLEASE ALERT USUN IF OFFICERS WITH MALDIVES INTERESTS EXPECT TO BE IN NEW YORK.)

4. THE FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS RECORDED:
AMB FATHULLA JAMEEL WAS BORN SEPTEMBER 5, 1942, MALE, MALDIVES. HE IS HARDLY FIVE FEET TALL, OF MEDIUM BUILD, AND SPORTS A GOATEE. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH WELL, IN A SOFT VOICE. HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD AMERICANS IS FRIENDLY. HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN EXPECT TO REMAIN IN THE MALDIVES INDEFINITELY. HE IS A MUSLIM, AND ENTERED AL-AZHAR UNIVERSITY, CAIRO, EGYPT IN 1957, UNDER AN EDUCATION GRANT FROM THAT UNIVERSITY. HE GRADUATED WITH A B.A. DEGREE IN 1965. IN 1974, FOR ONE AND A HALF MONTHS, HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, RANGOON, BURMA, AS A DIPLOMATIC TRAINEE; THE PROGRAM DEALT LARGELY WITH ECONOMICS, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHILE HE IS NOT A ECONOMIST, HE CONSIDERS THAT THE TRAINING RECIVED HS BEEN MOST BENEFICIAL TO HIS CAREER. THE AMB RECENTLY ACQUIRED LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS IN AN APARTMENT IN THE SAME BUILDING AS HIS OFFICE, 137 EAST 36 TH STREET NEW YORK, NY 10016.
LEONARD

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